

ABSTRACT

FRACTURING OF SUBTERRANEAN FORMATIONS

Fracturing of a subterranean formation may be achieved using a hydrogel. A preferred gel is formed from a gel precursor formulation which comprises an aqueous formulation of poly (1,4-di(4-(N-methylpyridinyl)) -2, 3-di(4-(1-
5 formylphenyl) butylidene), poly (vinyl alcohol) and a suitable proppant, in the presence of an acid catalyst. The gel may be prepared at the surface with a viscosity of greater than 200 cp measured at 100s^{-1} and then injected into the subterranean formation under high pressure to fracture the formation.